THE ORIGINAL

Moonbeams

BY COLONEL LITTLE

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Springtime Zephyrs Are Here -- very ripe in the Valley of the Moon

Can't say much good about the weatherman. Some few weeks ago he was predicting sunshine every day—and it rained for three weeks straight. Lately he's been predicting rains every day or so, and most of our days have been mighty sunshiny. Maybe we should abolish the weather bureau predictions. Let 'em tell us where the high and low pressures are, and we can predict our own weather.

You're an old-timer if you can remember when the coffee break came at lunch. VALLEY WATCH REPAIR, Boyes Hot Springs.

With our TV out of commission—yet and still—our poor little radio set has quite a job for itself, and it just doesn't quite fill the bill. Sure, you get news and more or less good and poor music, and that's about all. So, we've been reading good books. Already have waded through four or five, and actually are catching up after several years of always being behind. Maybe a good thing the TV went kerflooey.

YELL'S ACRES NURSERY, Glen Ellen. Getting about that time to get your Dahlias in. Wonderful selection here. Priced low.

The state has accepted Jack London estate as a park, about 25 acres of it, and the state hospital will donate 75 or more acres. No money outlay as yet, but with the donation of the land not much money will be needed for the initial stages of getting the park in operation.

We like to think we've had a finger in the pie—for we've plugged for a Jack London state park ever since we've been here—11 years in all. Which reminds us that we've been in the forefront (not really getting the things done, but needling those who can and have done

something) in a lot of Valley improvements.

Here's a few: Better lighting; a business group working for the Springs area; improvement of the formerly narrow Boyes boulevard; recreational areas; playgrounds; a dam; house numbering; an annual civic celebration; and Hanna Center for Boys. (On this one: Some very prominent folks fought against it; we took up the cudgels for it and the good Fathers opined that maybe the center would be welcomed here. And it certainly has been welcomed.)

There are other objectives: Incorporation as a city; mail distribution for all of the Springs section to be out of the Boyes postoffice; a junior high school in the Springs area; dams on Sonoma river, to conserve and provide water for everybody; roadside turnout parks throughout the Valley. (There's more, but that's enough now.)

DOTTIE'S CAFE (formerly Chicken House). On the highway, in Boyes. Fried chicken. Hamburgers (finest in town). Good coffee!

Said something a week or so ago about canned beans—how they lack a lot in quality, flavor, etc. Stopped in a local tavern and the man handed us a brown glass of B & M beans. Happens we knew there were such canned beans, and the gift was very welcome. They are baked in Maine, using California small white beans. They actually are better, much better, than the average run of canned beans, and we do thank the anonymous donor. They're made by Burnham & Morrell of Portland, Maine.

OUR RESORT, El Verano. Home of draft beer and the Stein club. Harvey and Melina will serve you, and you'll like it. Mixed drinks.

Then there's that Electronics Drive-In in Sonoma, on the highway just this side of the city. Have known one of the proprietors a long time, the other partner more recently. But they're good boys, know their stuff, and you can't go wrong.

Sam Castori came here about 20 years ago, for his health. Now he's a big strapping sort. He's been active in Boy Scout work, with the Valley fire department, and has been active in many civic projects. Al Kraft was an instructor in TV service in the Commercial Trade Institute in Chicago, has been here seven years.

Both men are Lions, work almost around the clock. That means if you have trouble, even on weekends, call 'em. Their specialty is car radios, but they know 'most everything about everything electronic.

AQUA SOFT—Water Treating Co. Sonoma owned. Call Petaluma Porter 2-7458. Evenings, Sonoma, Webster 8-3133.

Getting along toward Easter. And have you noticed how often they're singing and playing "Easter Parade" at you?

DENNY'S COG CLUB, Boyes. A place you'll like, especially if you're a sportsman. Finest mixed drinks. Homey atmosphere.

Yes, they're finally going to build a dam or two or three on Sonoma river. They really need more than that—about seven. Then we can hold back some of the water that now runs unused down to the bay, and we'll have water for irrigation, sprinkling, and Valley wells will have a higher water table.

Only disturbing thing about the proposition is the long time it will take to build the dams. Soil Conservation district will build a couple in the upper river, starting in 1958, but the army corps of engineers says it'll take six years to even get the lower dam started.

But why should it take that long? Is it because it's a federal matter? That may account for it. Red tape, bureaucrasy and all that— and why not get to work on that—all 170,000,000 of us, and bring those bureaus and commissions and boards down to earth and cut out a lot of the present inefficiency of governmental groups? High time we got started on it. In fact, about 50 years late.

PAUL'S OLD RANCHERO, Verano. Family dinners. Banquet hall. Varied menus at liveable prices. Cocktail bar. Paul at the organ.

In a supermarket you can find almost anything you want except the kids when you are ready to leave.

MENDEL'S CAFE, Boyes Plaza. Splendid menu, including Spanish delicacies. Bring your out-of- town guests here. Cocktail bar.

Yes, we've got a half dozen subscriptions that are delinquent (not juvenile). And we're not going to send out bills. Costs us $1.04 a year to mail Moonbeams in the first place, so we're not going to add 3 cents more to that. So, if you know or feel you're a little behind, send us $1.29 and you're again right with the lord. If you don't, pretty soon you'll be missing your Moonbeams.

SEE GREENGRASS for expert advice on all matters pertaining to Real Estate, Insurance. Phone 8-4731. 18340 Sonoma Hiway.

Taking Jack London State park off our "Program for the Springs Area" 'cause the state has now accepted the land, and we'll be having that park before you know it. But we'readding a Bridge to Connect Craig and Thompson Avenues in Boyes, and Roadside Turnout Parks along the Valley highways.

MANCUSO WINES, Glen Ellen. Grower-produced. Available at every retail outlet. As good as the best, and better than most.

Published every Friday by the Little Publishing Co., Box 446, Boyes Hot Springs, Calif. E. A. Little, the Old Colonel, is editor. $1.29 per year by mail, pickup free. Low advertising rate. Phone WE 8-4500.

We're not saying much about the proposed bond issue for Dunbar school, which comes up for a vote March 28. But we're getting a lot of mail, mostly agreeing with us that unless and until our schools consider using present school plants to capacity, there'll be no more money voted for expansion of classrooms or some of the proposed "frills."

Have had letters from Glen Ellen, Alhambra, Los Angeles, Ohio, Michigan and other places endorsing our stand. Even a national magazine has brought up the subject. San Diego is already starting the 12-month plan for its schools. Which is highly sensible. If schools were used 12 months a year, and anyway 12 hours a day, there would be little need for more building. Wonder when the school authorities will start thinking constructively?

ELECTRONIC DRIVE-IN— TV and Radio—Specializing in Auto Radio. 736 West Napa St., Sonoma. Kraft and Castori. WE 8-4839.

Had opportunity recently to examine some of the things that school children write—grades 6 to 8 and even high school students. They can't spell! They can't write a composition that shows intelligence much above third grade quality. What's wrong?

BROADWAY CAFE, Sonoma. Where we welcome you wholeheartedly. Friendly cusses. Off-sale, too. Let's get acquainted.

TODD CONSTRUCTION - ESTIMATING SERVICE. Subdivision Surveying. New location: Boyes Plaza, opposite Woodleaf.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Maher just recently had a day or two down in Chatsworth, where we hung out for about four years. Jim tells us prices for home and land are sky-high, and going higher; that subdivisions and new businesses are coming in by wholesale. A place he could have bought five years ago for $43,000 now is worth $70,000. Let's start a little something here!

AUTOMATIC WASHER & DRYER SERVICE. Installation, repairs, all makes. 19551 Cypress Lane, Sonoma. P.O. Box 114. WE 8-3176.

BATES AND EVANS, Funeral Directors. Sonoma Valley's Pioneer Funeral Service firm. Serving families of all faiths since 1879. 691 Broadway Sonoma. WEbster 8-2686.

There's no good reason why not.

A new water company well insures us plenty of water, for a time at least.

Sewers are in and functioning, all but in Glen Ellen, and that will be coming along soon.

The new Richmond bridge is already showing an increase in interest by many Bay area residents in coming up this way to live.

We're building new homes here right along, and they're snapped up even in the building stage.

We have two new recreation parks that are steadily being developed. Playgrounds, barbecues, tables, benches, water fountains.

We're soon to have new and vastly improved street lighting.

All we need is some initiative on the part of our business associations, some promotion, and we'll be not only back where we were (recreationally speaking) some years ago, but will be going ahead to new heights as a real place to live and do business in. (Watch those split infinitives, Colonel!)

SONOMA MISSION INN, Boyes. Nationally known, noted for its splendid meals, excellent bar, luxurious accommodations.

WILLARD FRENCH TV. 332 West Napa St., Sonoma. Phone WE 8-4242. 18 Years Full Time in Sonoma Valley. Repairs. Sales.

Bill Sweeney, one-time Boyes winter resident, former big league coach and Pacific Coast league manager (now residing in Arcadio), currently is manager of the Portland Beavers. He says his club will finish higher than last year when in late season it climbed to third place. His many friends here are pulling for him to do just that.

MAC DONALD'S JEWELRY, Sonoma. Watches, Rings, Shavers, Bands, Jewelry. Expert watch-clock repair service. Quality always.

MIKE & ROSE'S BOYES SPRINGS STORE. For the finest steaks and your everyday meats, you'll never find a better market.

The grass in the back yard was getting too high for the missus to cut. So lo and behold, your erudite editor got out the lawn mower Wednesday and proceeded to whack it down to size. Wasn't that mighty nice of us? Hereafter it gets cut the minute it gets high enuf.

WALTER GRUNERT AUTO UPHOLSTERY, Fetters Springs. Texaco station. Seat covers, floor mats, truck cushions, interior work.

POWDER BOX BEAUTY SHOP, Arnold Drive near Eldridge. A modern shop, experienced operators. For appointment call 8-2673.

Think it was Art Linkletter who figured out why most girls shut their eyes when kissing. "They're trying to remember the man's name!"

RUSTIC INN, Glen Ellen. Main corner. Authentic western atmosphere. Jack London's favorite tavern. Last of the 11 old-timers.

BANCROFT'S, Sonoma, on Broadway. Cut flowers, corsages, bouquets for hospital, funerals, and parties. See us for nursery plants.

Flowery school district voters will soon get a chance to vote on a proposal to hike the present 95 cent tax rate to $1.35. It will bring in enough money so there can be a "home arts" department, fully equipped and staffed. Nice—if we can afford it.

VALLEY OF THE MOON CIGARS—Union label, handmade right here at home. Superior quality always. Most dealers have 'em.

RAY'S SIGNAL SERVICE, Arnold Drive at Cecilia, Eldridge. For Emergency Groceries any time; varied stock. WE 8-5811.

New real estate firm in the Valley—Westmoreland-Nelms, which has headquarters in the Valley Watch Repair building. They seem to be starting off in an aggressive, businesslike manner.

R. A. "BOB" MILLER — "Yours for Life"
Insurance Exclusively Next to Telephone Co., Sonoma

ROZARIO'S PALMS INN, Verano. A comfortable, up-to-the-minute hotel, for the discriminating. Splendid dining room, and bar.

New Sonoma Valley hospital continues to have trouble with the Sonoma city council over a proper charge for sewage disposal. The thing's been hanging around for two or three years now. Actually the hospital never should have been located where it is, but it's too late now to change, and somebody's going to pay for the lack of vision displayed when the site was chosen.

SONOMA GROVE, Hiway 12 south of Boyes. Italian dishes our specialty—but also steaks, poultry, roasts, seafood—everything!

FRANK'S HARDWARE, Castner Bldg., Boyes. Paints, Tools, Glass. Household utensils, electrical appliances. Giftware.

SONOMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, Arnold Drive. You'll like our Clown Room. Bring your guests here, for outstanding prestige.

RICHFIELD SERVICE, Boyes Springs. Center of town. Fast and efficient service. Accessories. Bud Delaney, Proprietor.

And from Walt, down south: Did you hear about the nosey neighbor who saw the guy next door working on his lawn and went over. "What you putting on the lawn, neighbor?" "Elephant repellent." "But—there aren't any elephants within 5000 miles of here!" "Effective, isn't it?"

ADOBE DRUG (Ray S. Duer, 417 First St. W., Sonoma. WE 8-2971.
Prescription Specialists Veterinary Supplies

TOWN HOUSE SUPPER CLUB, Glen Ellen. Wonderful cuisine. Exotic atmosphere. Music weekends. Finest cocktails. The Amantes.

You don't have to wait too long, because starting in May, with spring flowers, housecleaning, and various fiestas, comes Better Bedding month, Tavern month, National Foot Health month, Ornamental Iron month and National Canned Hamburger month, all at once.

A citizen who takes Tavern month a little too seriously, lost his footing, fell against the ornamental iron fence at the corner and got home to find that his wife had walked out without leaving as much as a can of hamburgers behind, could at least thank his stars that May is also Better Bedding month. Ah, bed! And thank fortune the Refresh With Milk campaign has just started!

SONOMA FURNITURE MART, 113 West Napa St. We remodel, repair, refinish furniture; trade, buy or sell. Any kind of deal!

BUD'S GARAGE. Now located Railroad & Cherry Sts. Repairing all cars. Guaranteed service. Phone WE 8-3971.

URGE YEAR-ROUND CLASSES— (A Long Beach dispatch)— Year-around school classes as a means of relieving the room and teacher shortage was proposed today at the 29th annual convention of the California state council of carpenters.

A resolution presented to the convention at the Wilton hotel notes that millions of dollars have been invested in school facilities and additional millions are paid personnel on an annual basis.

It calls on the state department of education to conduct a survey to determine the possibility of keeping schools open 12 instead of 9 monhs a year.

EL DORADO HOTEL, Sonoma. Italian meals at their finest. American dinners too. Old West atmosphere. Cocktail bar. Try us.

GLEN ELLEN LIQUOR STORE. On Arnold Drive. Fine wines and Liquors. A friendly place, always. "SLIM" WALLACE.

Cheer Up! If at first you don't succeed—that makes you about average.

LEE STARRETT, Masseur, at Bathhouse, Boyes. Massages, slenderizing. You'll look and feel better. Make it a habit.

FIBERG DRUG STORE, So. Broadway, Sonoma. Prescription specialists. A super drug store, large stocks. Soda fountain, too.

COLORFUL, SPECTACULAR ANEMONES

Flowers in mass always have a startling effect—whether it is a bed of daffodils, a bank of roses or a plot of geraniums. In the landscape of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thayer in San Rafael, one of the eye-catching sights of spring is a lawn of anemones.

Approximately 30 years ago, a few dozen anemones were put in the lawn—which is planted with lippia. Since the lippia seldom needs mowing, particularly in the spring when the anemones are blooming, there is no difficulty in having bulbs in a lawn.

There are now thousands of anemones in the lawn, together with freesias, which were also planted. And between the first of March and the first week in April, the lawn becomes a colorful fairyland of blossoms. Mrs. Thayer is delighted with the colors—with the pinks and the blues and the lavenders of the anemones mixing with the ivory-white of the freesia.

Flowers from the anemone should be cut with a knife. If the flower is pulled from the bud, it will injure other buds which are forming. In addition to being beautiful in the mass, the anemone is

also very effective for planting in rock gardens, for spot color in borders, or in pots.

BOYES SPRINGS FOOD CENTER. Lowest prices, highest quality. Take-out license. Beverages. Friendly and fast service. One-Stop. JIM'S MEATS, at Boyes Springs Food Center. Only the very best in stock. Cut to your order. Delicatessen department. Drop in.

A PROGRAM FOR THE SPRINGS AREA

A suitable name for the area, preliminary to incorporation as a city.
Solution of the water problem by building a series of dams on Sonoma river to conserve water, prevent floods, and for recreation.
A bridge across Sonoma river, connecting Craig and Thompson.
Roadside turnout parks (we're 20 years behind) thruout the Valley.
Complete citywide paving, curbing, and sidewalks.
A bank of our own.
A name for Highway 12 suitable for our new city.
Traffic and parking control in the entire area.
Better street lighting.
A local chamber of commerce, devoted to Springs area promotion.
Procuring of rural delivery and carrier service, from Boyes postoffice.
More facilities, use, and suitable names for local Recreation District parks.

Moonbeams is dedicated to the accomplishment of these aims. Maybe more will be added in the months to come. We can't do it ourselves, but with community cooperation they will be done!

B & L LAUNDROMAT, Fetters. Bring your laundry here regularly for fast service and small charge. Wash. Dry. Iron.

SONOMA MILL & LUMBER CO., Hiway 12 at the big curve. Super service for contractors, carpenters, home owners, ranchers.

So we wind up a little short of type. How 'bout some little bits —like these?

One road that never needs repair is the straight and narrow.

A small town is a place where the only kind of secret is a brand-new one.

While no wives claim to be infallible, quite a few insist they're always right.

Everybody should have some form of relaxation. Even golfers.

If all men are born free, it's time the hospitals were told about it.

A small town is where you kiss and everybody tells.

And why not subscribe to Moonbeams for a friend or relative back east? Cost, $1.29.

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